

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 05005 300557Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DOE-15 SOE-02 /089 W  
-----035041 301349Z /46

R 300521Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3631  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 278  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, RP  
SUBJECT: NEW MUSLIM ORGANIZATION CALLS FOR ELECTION BOYCOTT

1. IN A STATEMENT CIRCULATING IN MUSLIM COMMUNITIES  
A MUSLIM REBEL COALITION SUPPORTING HASHIM SALAMAT  
HAS CALLED ON PHILIPPINE MUSLIMS TO BOYCOTT THE APRIL 7  
INTERIM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. THE GROUP, WHICH  
CALLS ITSELF THE COORDINATING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC),  
CONDEMNED THE ELECTIONS AS A VIOLATION OF THE 1976  
TRIPOLI ACCORD AND CHARGED THE ELECTIONS WILL LEGITIMIZE  
THE MARCOS GOVERNMENT'S "VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS SINCE  
1972." THE CAC STATEMENT WAS SIGNED BY RASCHID LUCMAN AS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE CAC, SALIPADA PENDATUN, CHAIRMAN OF ITS  
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COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND JAMIL YAHYA, USING THE  
TITLE "PRERESENTATIVE, MNLF."

2. COMMENT: THE CAC IS A NEW ORGANIZATION APPARENTLY  
FORMED TO SUPPORT HASHIM SALAMAT'S EFFORTS TO ATTAIN  
THE LEADERSHIP OF THE MNLF. ACCORDING TO THE STATEMENT,  
THE CAC IS COMPRISED OF THE "UNIFIED FORCES OF THE MNLF,

THE BANGSA MORO LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, THE MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE ANSAR EL ISLAM." THE INCLUSION OF YAHYA, HOWEVER, CONFIRMS OUR BELIEF THAT THE CAC IS STILL ONLY A FACTION IN THE BIFURCATED PHILIPPINE MUSLIM REBEL MOVEMENT. YAHYA LEFT THE MNLF OVER A YEAR AGO FOLLOWING A DISAGREEMENT WITH MNLF LEADER NUR MISUARI. IT APPEARS NOW THAT HE HAS TAKEN SALAMAT'S SIDE AND IS BEING USED BY THE CAC TO GIVE THE ISSUION OF UNITY IN THE MOVEMENT UNDER SALAMAT'S LEADERSHIP.

3. THE CALL TO BOYCOTT THE ELECTIONS IS PROBABLY UNNECESSARY. DURING A RECENT TRIP TO WESTERN MINDANAO, EMBOFFS FOUND LITTLE INTEREST IN THE ELECTION, WHICH IS PERCEIVED TO HAVE LITTLE RELEVANCE TO THE PROBLEMS OF PHILIPPINE MUSLIMS. THE COMPLEX OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE MUSLIM CONFLICT ARE NOTABLE FOR THEIR ABSENCE FROM CAMPAIGN RHETORIC. AS IN THE PAST, THE PROBLEMS OF PHILIPPINE MUSLIMS ARE RECEIVING SCANT, IF ANY ATTENTION IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS.

NEWSOM

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTIONS, BOYCOTTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3394139  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW MUSLIM ORGANIZATION CALLS FOR ELECTION BOYCOTT  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, RP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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